

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-20 SWF-02 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-03

SP-03 STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 SS-20

NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 L-03 DRC-01 SAJ-01 /171 W

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R 051125Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2026

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS PARIS 20948

PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR/FR

SUBJECT: FARMERS UNREST

SUMMARY: EC FARM ORGANIZATION MET IN PARIS AND DECIDED TO ORGANIZE DEMONSTRATIONS IN EACH EC COUNTRY ON SEPTEMBER 16 TO PRESSURE EC AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 17 TO INCREASE FARM SUPPORT PRICES 8 PERCENT.

1. THE MEETING OF THE EC FARM ORGANIZATION LEADERS IN PARIS ON SEPTEMBER 4, RESULTED IN CONSENSUS TO SUPPORT THE RECENT DECISIONS OF THE COPA:

- IMMEDIATE 8 PERCENT INCREASE IN SUPPORT PRICE FOR ALL

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AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

- COMPLEMENTARY MEASURES TO ASSIST COMMODITIES IN DIFFICULTY I.E. MEAT, WINE.

- FIXING ANNUAL PRICE FOR NEXT CAMPAIGN EARLIER IN THE YEAR (FEBRUARY).

TO SUPPORT UNITED POSITION EC FARM LEADERS DECIDED TO ORGANIZE FARMER DEMONSTRATIONS ON SEPTEMBER 16 IN ALL EC COUNTRIES (ONE DAY BEFORE THE NEXT MINAGR COUNCIL MEETING). FARM ORGANIZATIONS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR FORM OF DEMONSTRATION IN RESPECTIVE COUNTRY BUT THEME WILL BE THE SAME THROUGHOUT EC. COPA PRESIDENT, MR. KNOTTNERUS DID NOT EXCLUDE THAT VIOLENCE COULD OCCUR AT SOME OF THE DEMONSTRATIONS.

2. FRENCH AGRICULTURIST CHRISTIAN BONNET, AS PRESIDENT OF THE EC AGRICULTURIST COUNCIL, RECEIVED EC FARM LEADERS AFTER THEIR MEETING. THE FARM LEADERS REPORTEDLY TOLD MINISTER BONNET OF THEIR CONCERN ABOUT THE EUROPEAN FARM SITUATION AND INFORMED HIM OF THE FORTHCOMING DEMONSTRATIONS. MINISTER'S REACTION WAS ONE OF UNDERSTANDING STATING THAT HE WAS CONSCIOUS OF THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION. HE EXPLAINED THAT THERE WAS NOT A UNANIMOUS POSITION AT THE AGRICULTURIST MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 3 IN BRUSSELS ON THE 4 PERCENT PRICE INCREASE PROPOSED BY EC COMMISSION, BUT STATED THAT THE AGRICULTURIST MEETING ON THE 17TH WILL BE ONE OF DECISIONS. ALSO MR. BONNET STATED THAT HE WAS FOR A CONTINUATION OF THE BEEF IMPORT BAN AFTER NOVEMBER 1.

3. COMMENT: FRENCH FARMERS WILL BE VERY DISAPPOINTED WITH INCREASE LESS THAN 8 PERCENT. GOF IS COMMITTED TO SEEK EXTENSION OF BEEF IMPORT BAN.

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TAGS: EAGR, FR
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